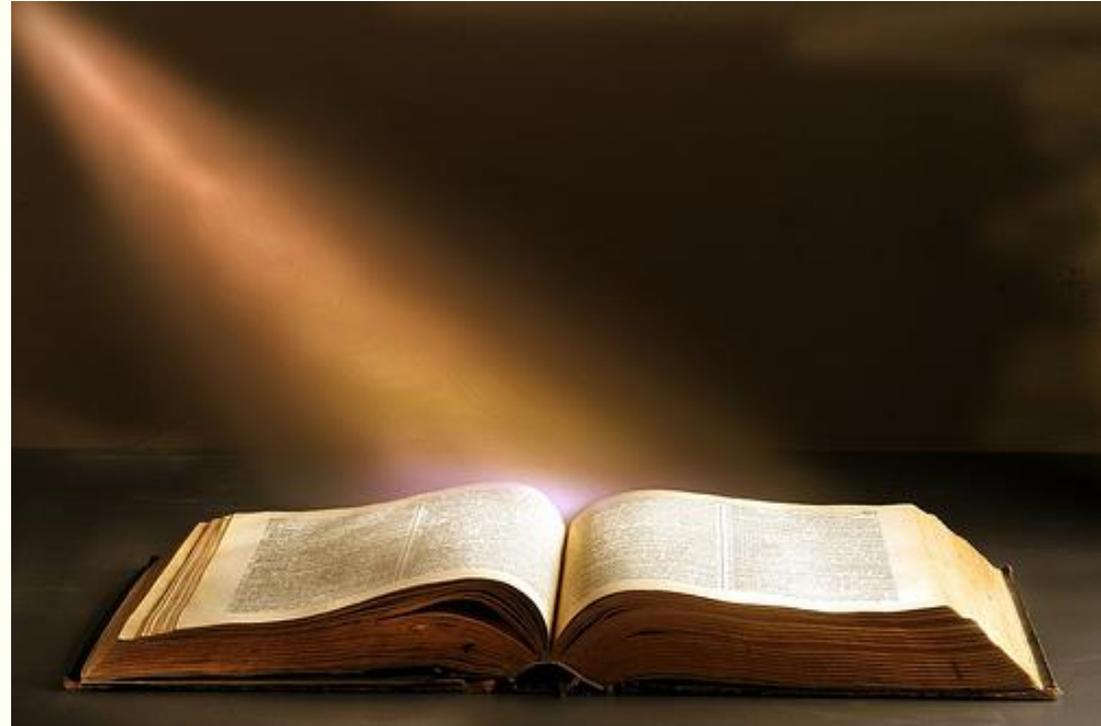
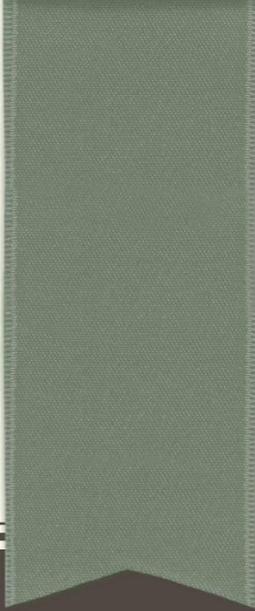


Exploring the Book of Revelation: Verse by Verse

Chapter 11





CHAPTER 11

The Two Witnesses and the Seventh Trumpet

Chapter 11



Primary purpose of our Bible study is to understand each message as it applied to the church to which it was given AND its personal application for us today

Measure the temple

42-months time prophecy

The Two Witnesses

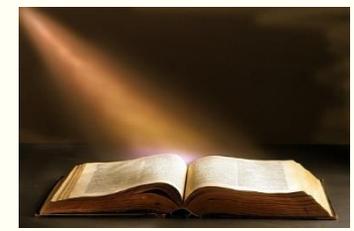
The Witnesses killed

The French Revolution

The Witnesses resurrected

The Seventh Trumpet

Revelation 11:1-6



1 Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, “Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. **2** But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. **3** And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.” **4** These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. **5** And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. **6** These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

Measure the temple

The first part of Rev 11 continues the interlude between the 6th and 7th trumpets

There is no chapter break between Revelation 10 and 11 in the original texts

John had eaten the little book which was sweet in his mouth but bitter in his stomach. He probably felt sick and had to lay down, but the angel now bids John to prophesy again, rise up and measure.

Reed (Greek – kalamos) is a plant with hollow stalk that grew in the Jordan valley. It was straight and long (up to 10 feet) and suitable as a measuring rod

What does it mean to measure the temple (naos), altar and worshippers?

There are two words for temple in the New Testament:

Greek – hieron refers to the entire temple precinct (Acts 3:10)

Greek – naos refers to the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary

“Then, behold, the veil of the temple (naos) was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split..” (Matt 27:51)

“Then the temple (naos) of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple (naos). And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.” (Rev 11:19)

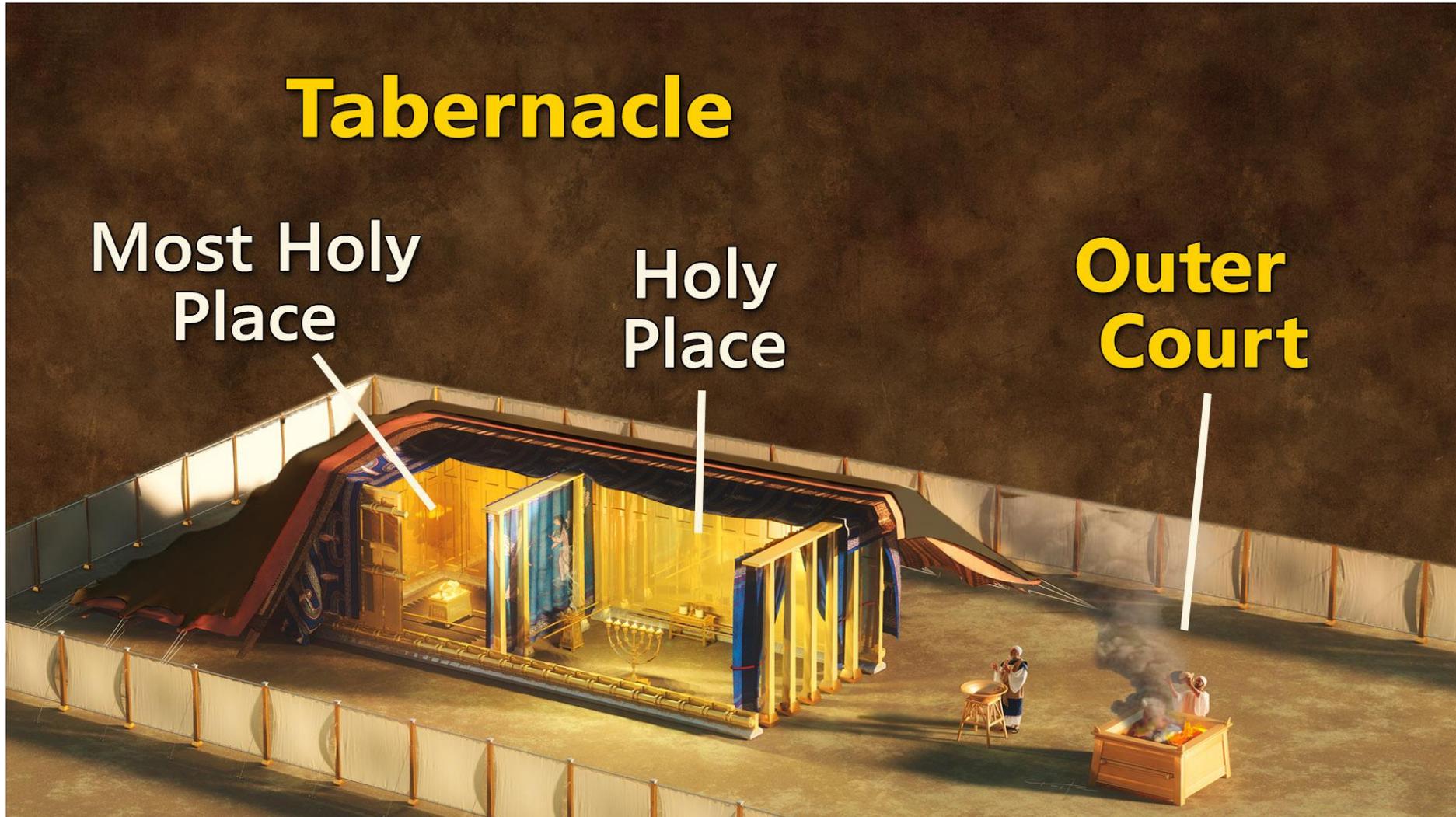


Tabernacle

Most Holy Place

Holy Place

Outer Court



Measure the temple

Revelation never uses the word “hieron”. However, “naos” is used 16 times.

Similar phenomena occurred when God revealed His law on Mt Sinai (Ex 19:16-18)

Tabernacle: Greek – skene refers to the whole building

“After these things I looked, and behold, the temple (naos) of the tabernacle (skene) of the testimony in heaven was opened.” (Rev 15:5)

The temple of God in heaven is the Most Holy Place where God’s presence is

“But I saw no temple (naos) in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple (naos).”
Rev 21:22

“And what agreement has the temple (naos) of God with idols? For you are the temple (naos) of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” (2 Cor 6:16)

“who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple (naos) of God, showing himself that he is God.” (2 Thess 2:4)

The temple of God on earth is represented by the church (body of believers)

Apostle Paul always applied “naos” spiritually to the Christian church. He never called the literal Jewish temple “naos” in all 25 references

The altar referred to here is the golden altar in the Holy place and not the bronze altar of sacrifice located in the outer court



Measure the temple

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the **foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Jesus Christ Himself being the **chief cornerstone**, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.” – Eph 2:19-22

The temple of God on earth is a spiritual house with stones representing the believers, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus as the Chief Cornerstone.

Greek – metreo means to measure out, evaluate or judge according to a standard

“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what **judgment you judge**, you will be judged; and with the **measure you use**, it will be measured (metreo) back to you.”
(Matt 7:1-2)

John was commanded to prophesy again after the bitter experience. What to prophesy? The message had to do with the measuring of the temple

The measuring of the temple refers to judgment of the people of God, the church

The Day of Atonement was a day of judgment as atonement was made for the priests, sanctuary, altar and people (Lev 16:33)





Revelation 14:7

“Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come ...”



Measure the temple

“For the time has come for **judgment to begin at the house of God**; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?” – 1 Pet 4:17

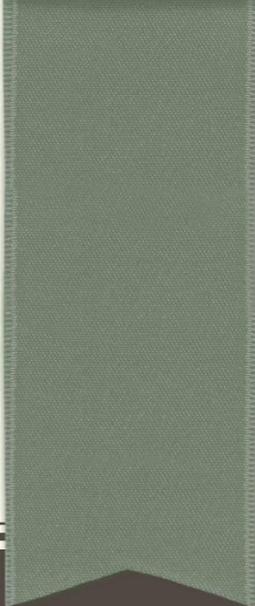
“These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the **house of God, which is the church of the living God**, the pillar and ground of the truth. – 1 Tim 3:14, 15

“As the books of record are opened in the judgment, the lives of all who have believed on Jesus come in review before God. Beginning with those who first lived upon the earth, our Advocate presents the cases of each successive generation, and closes with the living. Every name is mentioned, every case closely investigated. Names are accepted, names rejected. When any have sins remaining upon the books of record, unrepented of and unforgiven, their names will be blotted out of the book of life, and the record of their good deeds will be erased from the book of God's remembrance.”

Great Controversy, page 483

The judgment described in Revelation 11 applies only to Christians, the people of God, those who have accepted Jesus' sacrifice and profess to follow Him



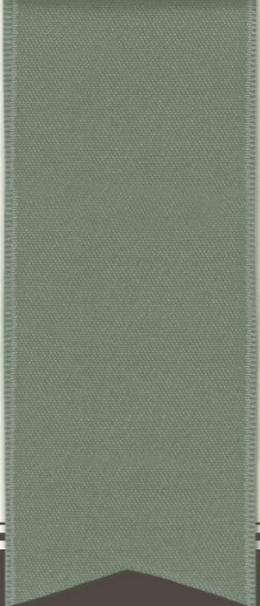


“The grand judgment is taking place and has been going on for some time. Now the Lord says, Measure the temple and the worshipers thereof. Remember when you are walking the streets about your business, God is measuring you; when you are attending your household duties, when you engage in conversation, God is measuring you. Remember that your words and actions are being daguerreotyped [photographed] in the books of heaven, as the face is reproduced by the artist on the polished plate.”

Bible Commentary, Volume 7, page 972



The Day of Atonement was an illustration of God's judgment in the heavenly sanctuary that will occur just before Jesus comes again.



“The Lord has provided His church with capabilities and blessings, that they may present to the world an image of His own sufficiency, and that His church may be complete in Him, a continual representation of another, even the eternal world, of laws that are higher than earthly laws. His church is to be a temple built after the divine similitude, and the angelic architect has brought his golden measuring rod from heaven, that every stone may be hewed and squared by the divine measurement and polished to shine as an emblem of heaven, radiating in all directions the bright, clear beams of the Sun of Righteousness.”

Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel workers, page 17

Measure the temple

“For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?” – 1 Pet 4:17

Now the focus shifts from the people of God to the people of the world

“Leave out” means to “throw out” or “cast out”

The inner court had 3 precincts: the Court of the priests, the Court of the Israelites, and the Court of the Women

The outer court was the Court of the Gentiles – located outside the temple and separated by a barrier. Any Gentile that passes beyond the barrier was under the penalty of death

“And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.” – Luke 21:24

Jerusalem refer to God’s faithful church (Gal 3:26-29)

The Gentiles represent people of the world who are enemies of Christ’s true church. Those in the court are not measured (judged) at this time until their times are fulfilled.

That the Gentiles would trample (tread underfoot) the holy city for 42 prophetic months refers to the persecution of the saints for 1260 literal years

42 x 30 = 1260 prophetic days = 1260 literal years



**1 prophetic
day
=
1 literal
year**

42-months time prophecy

Literal trampling of the city of Jerusalem by the Romans occurred in 70 AD

Spiritual trampling of spiritual Jerusalem (church) by spiritual Rome (Papacy)

Treading underfoot “trampling” refers to persecution of God’s true church – Dan 8:10-12

Three expressions appear in seven Bible texts refer to the persecution of the saints for 1260 literal years by the little horn (Papacy) from 538 AD to 1798 AD

42 prophetic months = Time, times and half a time = 1260 days

When the 1260 years came to an end, the times of the Gentiles was complete

1798 AD begins the “the time of the end”



1 prophetic
day
=
1 literal
year

Prophetic time	Bible text	Literal time
42 prophetic months	Rev 11:2, 13:5	1260 literal years
Time, times and half a time	Rev 12:14, Dan 7:25, Dan 12:7	1260 literal years
1260 days	Rev 11:13, 12:6	1260 literal years

“The truth concerning the temple and the altar had been lost to the Christian church. In the Old Testament, the prophet Daniel revealed that the antichrist was responsible for this: “He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host: and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.” (Dan 8:11). It was the “daily” that was taken away. The *daily* represented the ministration of Christ in the heavenly temple. This would be taken away, and the place of His sanctuary, that is, the heavenly sanctuary, or temple, would be cast down. The papacy took away the *daily* and cast down the sanctuary by setting up a counterfeit priesthood, sanctuary and altar... When the Roman Catholic system developed, the world was deceived into looking to this system of priesthood for its salvation. The great truths of Christ’s heavenly sanctuary and His mediation there were cast down or lost... That truth was rediscovered in 1844 as a result of the Great Disappointment... The prediction of Daniel 7 reveals that after the Father was seated in judgment, “behold, One like the Son of Man [Jesus] came with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of days, and they brought Him near before Him.” (Dan 7:13). Here Christ is described as coming to the Holy of Holies of the awesome heavenly temple. This was the significance of the coming of Christ in 1844; it was not to the earth but to the judgment scene in the heavenly temple.”

AN ENDURING VISION,
REVELATION REVEALED, PAGE 327-329

The Two Witnesses

“**Lamp**” in Hebrew – Niyr means a source of light, candle or literally a lamp

“Your word is a **lamp (niyr)** to my feet, and a light to my path.– Psalms 119:105

“And he said to me, “What do you see?” So I said, “I am looking, and there is a lampstand (menowrah) of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven **lamps (niyr)** with seven pipes to the seven **lamps (niyr)** .- Zech 4:2

“**Lamp**” in Greek – Luchnios is a lamp or candle OR Lampas – torch or lamp fed with oil

“**Lampstand**” in Greek – Luchnia is a stand to hold a lamp or candlestick

“The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands (luchnia): The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands (luchnia) which you saw are the seven churches.” – Rev 1:20

“These are the two olive trees and the two **lampstands (luchnia)** standing before the God of the earth.” – Rev 11:4

“No one, when he has lit a **lamp (luchnos)**, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a **lampstand (luchnia)**, that those who come in may see the light.” – Luke 11:33

“...but the wise took oil in their vessels with their **lamps (lampas)**.” – Matt 25:4

The Word of God is symbolized by a lamp and the Church is the lampstand



Several suggestions regarding the identity of the two witnesses:

- The Law and the Prophets
- Moses and Elijah
- Law and the Gospel
- Old and New Testaments (Bible)
- The people of God

The Two Witnesses

“What do you see?” So I said, “I am looking, and there is a **lampstand** of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand **seven lamps** with seven pipes to the seven lamps. **Two olive trees** are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left.” – Zech 4:2-3

Joshua the high priest (**priestly role**) and Zerubbabel the governor (**royal role**) were filled with the Holy Spirit and instrumental in restoring the temple and its services

“This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by **My Spirit,**’ Says the Lord of hosts.” (Zech 4:6)

The olive trees represent the power of the Holy Spirit. The lampstands and lamps symbolize the spiritual light of the truth from the Scriptures proclaimed through the church

The acts of the two greatest prophets in Israel’s history, Moses and Elijah, in calling fire down from heaven, prophesying the terrible drought due to Israel’s apostasy and initiating the plagues of Egypt reflect the **prophetic role** of the two witnesses by the Word of God

Sackcloth is the garb of the prophets worn during mourning, distress, sorrow (Isa 20:2)

The two witnesses of Rev 11 can be understood as the Scriptures and the people of God filled with the Spirit in their royal, priestly and prophetic roles as they bear witness to the Word of God

For 1260 years, through the Dark Ages, the Bible was suppressed, chained to walls, written only in Latin and inaccessible to the common people. The penalty of having a copy was death



The Hebrew word for anointed is hayitshaar, meaning “**who produces light**”

The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:3-14 is the last part of the interlude between the 6th and 7th trumpets. It shows the experience of God's people in the hostile world as they bear witness to the gospel

“Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered.”– Dan 8:12

The war against the Bible, carried forward for so many centuries in France, culminated in the scenes of the Revolution. That terrible outbreaking was but the legitimate result of Rome's suppression of the Scriptures.” **Great Controversy, page 265**

In ancient Israel, the legal court system required at least two witnesses in order to establish something to be true and with collaborative testimonies (Matt 18:16)

Witness in Greek (Martos) also mean “Martyr”. “To commission” or “**give power**” indicate that the two witnesses have divine authority

“You search the **Scriptures**, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which **testify** of Me.” – John 5:39

“But you shall **receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be **witnesses** to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” – Acts 1:8

I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the **martyrs** of Jesus.- Rev 17:6



The Two Witnesses

The two witnesses can be represented by both the Word of God (Old and New Testament) AND the testimony of Jesus borne by the people of God (the church) – Rev 1:2,9

Witnessing and preaching of the gospel to the end as a witness to all the nations is why God's people are persecuted (Rev 20:4)

Through **1260 years of the Dark Ages**, God's true church faithfully witnessed/prophesied

This is the same period the Gentiles were allowed to trample and oppress God's people. They experienced hardship and persecution in bearing witness for Jesus (sackcloth)

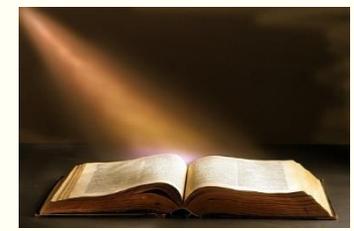
“The two witnesses represent the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament. Both are important testimonies to the origin and perpetuity of the law of God. Both are witnesses also to the plan of salvation. The types, sacrifices, and prophecies of the Old Testament point forward to a Savior to come. The Gospels and Epistles of the New Testament tell of a Savior who has come in the exact manner foretold by type and prophecy.” Great Controversy, page 267

“Until Christ shall appear in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory...**The church** will yet see troublous times. She will **prophesy in sackcloth**. Although she must meet heresies and persecutions, although she must battle with the infidel and the apostate, yet by the help of God she is bruising the head of Satan. The Lord will have a people as true as steel, and with faith as firm as the granite rock. **They are to be His witnesses in the world**, His instrumentalities to do a special, a glorious work in the day of His preparation.” – Testimonies to the Church, Vol 4, pg 594

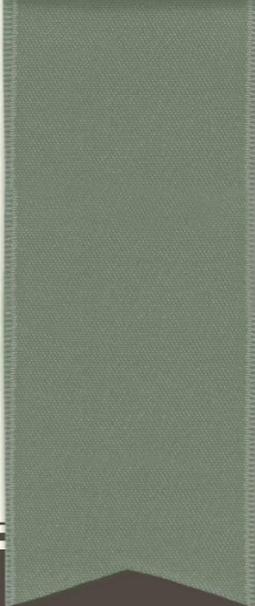
There is always a consequence for misrepresenting Bible truth and teaching error – Rev 22:18



Revelation 11:7-10



7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. 8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. 9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. 10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

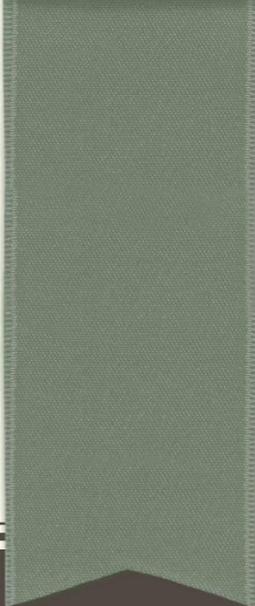


By 500 AD, there were over 500 translations of the Bible into different languages. But from that time, the availability of the Bible was curtailed to the point that only one translation was available – the Latin version – which most people could not read or understand. The people were in darkness for a thousand years.”

Revelation Pure and Simple, page 121

“As the stream of Christianity flowed farther from its foundation, it became more and more corrupt, and as the centuries advanced, superstition advanced with them. Tales of purgatory, and pious frauds, and the worship of saints, relics, and images, took the place of pure and simple Christianity: till at length, the Book of God laid aside for legendary tales and traditions of men, all these corruptions were collected into a regular system of superstition and oppression.”

The Apocalypse, page 146



“God's witnesses remained in a state of obscurity. The papal power sought to hide from the people the word of truth, and set before them false witnesses to contradict its testimony. When the Bible was proscribed by religious and secular authority; when its testimony was perverted, and every effort made that men and demons could invent to turn the minds of the people from it; when those who dared proclaim its sacred truths were hunted, betrayed, tortured, buried in dungeon cells, martyred for their faith, or compelled to flee to mountain fastnesses, and to dens and caves of the earth--then the faithful witnesses prophesied in sackcloth.”

Great Controversy, page 267

“The question must be asked: Did the Scriptures prophesy in obscurity during the 1260 years of papal supremacy? History provides a clear answer to this question. **Whenever the papacy was ruling, Scriptures were suppressed**, for the Bible was preserved solely in the Latin language, which only the priesthood understood.. The Bible was, as it were, locked up in obscurity and kept from the masses.

Translation of the Bible into the ordinary language of the people was expressly forbidden by both church and civil law. The papacy claimed that only the Mother Church could explain Scripture and that individual interpretation of the Bible turned people into heretics. Thus, they argued that the Bible had to be protected from the general population. Furthermore, **wherever the Bible was possessed in the native tongue of the people, the papacy made war on that people**. The decree of Toulouse (France) in AD 1229, which established the Tribunal of the Inquisition against all the readers of the Bible in the common tongue, “was an edict of fire, bloodshed and devastation, it ordained the entire destruction of the houses, the humblest places of concealment, and even the subterranean retreats of men convicted of possessing the Scriptures; that they should be pursued to the forests and caves of the earth; and that even **those who harbored them should be severely punished.**”

AN ENDURING VISION,
REVELATION REVEALED, PAGE 340

“As a result, **the Bible was prohibited everywhere**. Therefore, it vanished, as it were, underground; it descended into the tomb. For five hundred years these decrees were followed, and innumerable punishments were handed out, **causing the blood of the saints to flow as water**. In a convocation held at Oxford under Archbishop Arundel in 1408, the following item was enacted: That no man hereafter by his own authority translate any text of the Scripture into English or any other tongue, by way of book, libel, or treatise; and that no man read any such book, libel or treatise...in privily or apertly, upon **pain of greater excommunication**...He that shall do contrary to this, shall likewise be punished as a **favorer of error and heresy**.”

“Against John Barret ‘because he John Barret was heard in his own house before his wife and maid there present, to **recite the epistle of James**, which epistle, with many other things, he had perfectly without book’. John Newman was **impeached because he was present** in the house of John Barret, at the reading of the Scripture. William Haliday was detected for having in his custody a book of the Acts of the Apostles in English. One Fredway and several others, because they were heard to **recite the Ten Commandments in English**.”

AN ENDURING VISION,
REVELATION REVEALED, PAGE 341



THE WALDENSES, LINEAGE

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The Two Witnesses Killed

When the two witnesses completed witnessing in sackcloth, they are overcome and killed

The beast of Rev 13:7 or the little horn of Dan 7:21 which is the Papacy was given authority from the dragon and waged war on the saints for 1260 years and overcame them

A beast represents a king, kingdom, political or religious power (Dan 7:17,23)

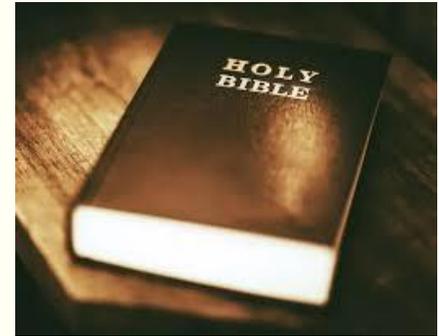
The beast from the bottomless pit which waged war on the Bible has its source from Satan

The excesses and corruption of the Papal church system got so bad that their strongest ally and supporter, France, became their worst enemy

The French were foremost in aiding the ascendancy of the papacy when Clovis, king of Franks came to the zenith of his power in **508 AD**. Through his defeat of Alaric II, king of the Goths, he helped to overthrow paganism and weaken the forces of the so-called heretical Arians, thus aiding in the fulfillment of the rise of the Papacy in the **1290 days prophecy** of Daniel 12:11

“In Gregory's famous "History of the Franks," the cruel and unscrupulous king appears as God's chosen instrument for the extension of the Catholic faith. Certainly, Clovis [king of Franks] quickly learned to combine his own interests with those of the church, and the alliance between the pope and the Frankish kings was destined to have a great influence upon the history of Western Europe.” - **Robinson's History of Western Europe, page 36**

Ironically, the same Franks who did so much to build up the Papacy at the beginning of the prophetic period was the same power (French) to unseat the Papacy in 1798 AD and give it its deadly wound



The **1335**
prophetic days
of Daniel 12:12
which also
commenced in
508 AD
reaches the
year 1843 AD

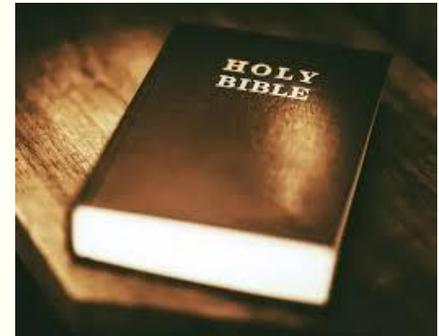
The Two Witnesses Killed

The book, the **Great Controversy**, gives an incredible insight to France assault on the Word of God and the resulting consequences in Chapter 15 – The Bible and the French Revolution

In 1793 AD, the French made an assault against the Bible and the abolishment of religion

“The war against the Bible, carried forward for so many centuries in France, culminated in the scenes of the Revolution. That terrible outbreaking was but the legitimate result of Rome's suppression of the Scriptures.” – Great Controversy, page 265

In many of the nations of Europe the powers that ruled in church and state had for centuries been controlled by Satan through the medium of the papacy. But here is brought to view a new manifestation of satanic power. “The great city” in whose streets the witnesses are slain, and where their dead bodies lie, is “**spiritually**” Egypt. Of all nations presented in Bible history, Egypt most boldly denied the existence of the living God and resisted His commands. No monarch ever ventured upon more open and highhanded rebellion against the authority of Heaven than did the king of Egypt. When the message was brought him by Moses, in the name of the Lord, Pharaoh proudly answered: “Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah, and moreover I will not let Israel go.” (Exodus 5:2) This is **atheism**, and the nation represented by Egypt would give voice to a similar denial of the claims of the living God and would manifest a like **spirit of unbelief and defiance**. “The great city” is also compared, “spiritually,” to Sodom. The **corruption of Sodom** in breaking the law of God was especially manifested in **licentiousness**. And this sin was also to be a pre-eminent characteristic of the nation that should fulfill the specifications of this scripture. According to the words of the prophet, then, a little before the year 1798 some power of satanic origin and character would rise to make war upon the Bible. And in the land where the testimony of God's two witnesses should thus be silenced, there would be manifest the atheism of the Pharaoh and the licentiousness of Sodom.” - Great Controversy, page 269



“In **April 1792**, the newly elected [French] Legislative Assembly declared war on Austria and Prussia...it also hoped to spread its revolutionary ideals across Europe through warfare. A group of insurgents led by the extremist Jacobins attacked the royal residence in Paris and arrested the king on August 10, 1792. Parisian insurrectionists massacred hundreds of accused counterrevolutionaries. The Legislative Assembly was replaced by the National Convention, which proclaimed the **abolition of the monarchy** and the establishment of the French republic. On January 21, 1793, it sent King Louis XVI, condemned to death for high treason and crimes against the state, to the guillotine; his wife Marie-Antoinette suffered the same fate nine months later. In June 1793, the Jacobins seized control of the National Convention and instituted a series of radical measures, including the **establishment of a new calendar** and the **eradication of Christianity**. They also unleashed the bloody Reign of Terror (la Terreur), a 10-month period in which suspected enemies of the revolution were guillotined by the thousands. On **August 22, 1795**, the National Convention, composed largely of Girondins who had survived the Reign of Terror, approved a new constitution. Royalists and Jacobins protested the new regime but were swiftly silenced by the army, now led by a young and successful general named Napoleon Bonaparte.”

HISTORY.COM

[HTTPS://WWW.HISTORY.COM/TOPICS/FRANCE/FRENCH-REVOLUTION#SECTION_7](https://www.history.com/topics/france/french-revolution#section_7)

The French Revolution

The ten horns of Dan 7 & Rev 13 and ten toes of Daniel 2 represent the kingdoms of Western Europe, including Revolutionary France, which was inherited by Papal Rome (spiritual Babylon)

“In 1798, the French people arose in awful revenge against the arrogant, corrupt, cruel and selfish aristocracy and the priesthood that had ground them down in poverty and serfdom for so many years.” – **An Enduring Vision, page 343**

“The time of the 18th century French Revolution, when the 1260 years of the Papal era were closing, was a turning point...in the history of the modern era. It brought forth forces that made a permanent change in the thoughts and actions of mankind.” – **The Prophetic Faith of our Father, page 2.732**

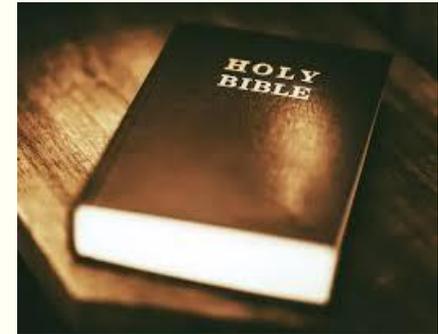
The French people did not distinguish false Christianity from the true faith and during the “Reign of Terror” attacked everything associated with religion, officially abolishing all religion

Every church was closed, Bibles were publicly burned, most of the clergy and aristocracy were executed, and the worship of the Goddess of Reason was exalted and given homage

For three and half years, the Revolutionaries of France did everything to destroy the Bible

France also abolished the seven-day week because it originated at creation as recorded in the book of Genesis. They decreed a ten-day week which ended in reveling and blasphemy

During the Revolution, there was widespread moral debasement and corruption. The union of marriage was reduced to a mere civil transient contract between any two people that could be freely engaged in and cast off at pleasure. It was described as **“the sacrament of adultery”**.

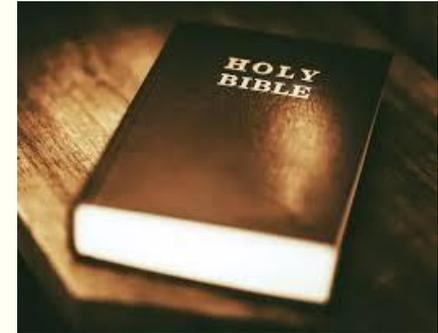


The French Revolution

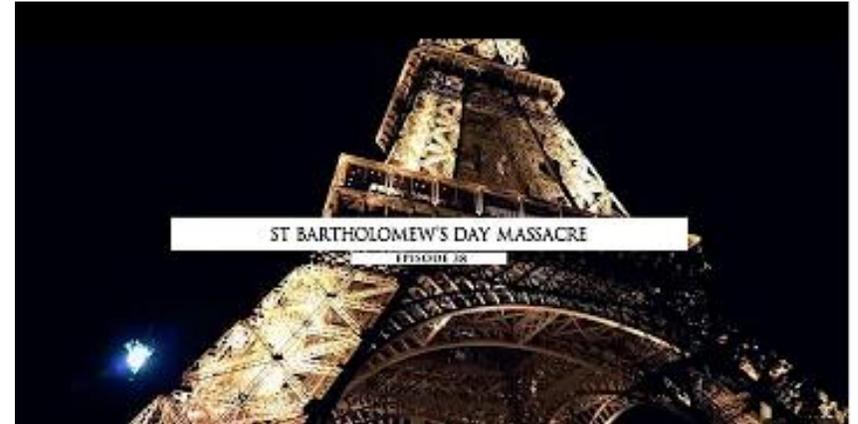
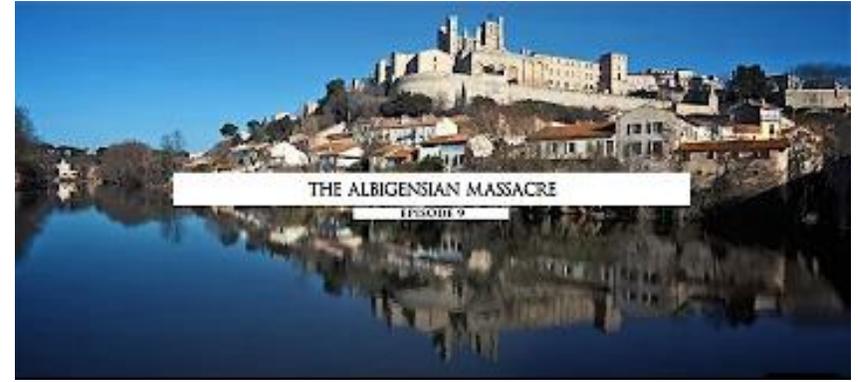
The spirit of enmity against Christ was strikingly displayed during the Revolution. Jesus Christ was declared to be an imposter and these infidels rallying cry was, “Crush the Wretch”. **The same master spirit that urged on the St. Bartholomew Massacre led also in the scenes of the Revolution**

Century after century the blood of the saints had been shed. While the Waldenses laid down their lives upon the mountains of Piedmont “for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ,” similar witness to the truth had been borne by their brethren, the **Albigenses of France**. The “Church in the Desert,” the few descendants of the ancient Christians that still lingered in France in the eighteenth century, hiding away in the mountains of the south, still cherished the faith of their fathers. As they ventured to meet by night on mountainside or lonely moor, they were chased by dragoons and dragged away to lifelong slavery in the galleys. The purest, the most refined, and the most intelligent of the French were chained, in horrible torture, amidst robbers and assassins. Others, more mercifully dealt with, were shot down in cold blood, as, unarmed and helpless, they fell upon their knees in prayer. Hundreds of aged men, defenseless women, and innocent children were left dead upon the earth at their place of meeting. These atrocities were enacted ... in no dark age, but in the brilliant era of Louis XIV. Science was then cultivated, letters flourished, the divines of the court and of the capital were learned and eloquent men, and greatly affected the graces of meekness and charity. But blackest in the black catalogue of crime, most horrible among the fiendish deeds of all the dreadful centuries, was the **St. Bartholomew Massacre**. The world still recalls with shuddering horror the scenes of that most cowardly and cruel onslaught. The king of France, urged on by Romish priests and prelates, lent his sanction to the dreadful work. A bell, tolling at dead of night, was a signal for the slaughter. Protestants by thousands, sleeping quietly in their homes, trusting to the plighted honor of their king, were dragged forth without a warning and murdered in cold blood. Neither age nor sex was respected. Neither the innocent babe nor the man of gray hairs was spared. Noble and peasant, old and young, mother and child, were cut down together. Throughout France the butchery continued for two months. Seventy thousand of the very flower of the nation perished.”

Great Controversy, page 271, 272

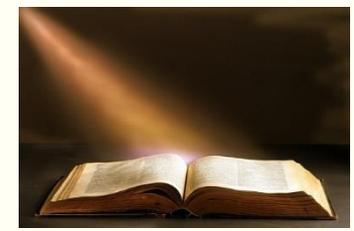


Saint
Bartholomew's
Day massacre
(Aug 24, 1572)



THE ALBIGENSIAN AND ST BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY MASSACRE, LINEAGE
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Revelation 11:11-14



11 Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. **12** And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. **13** In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven. **14** The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

The Two Witnesses Resurrected

France was foremost in carrying out the papacy's will in opposing and destroying those who rejected Roman Catholic dogma. They were guilty of the slaughter of millions of Christians who refused to follow the Roman Catholic faith.

Homage was paid to Satan and Christ was crucified. But the triumph of the wicked was short.

Those who dwell on the earth is a reference to the wicked – from every tribe, people & tongue

The persecution, crucifixion, death and resurrection of the two witnesses' parallels Christ

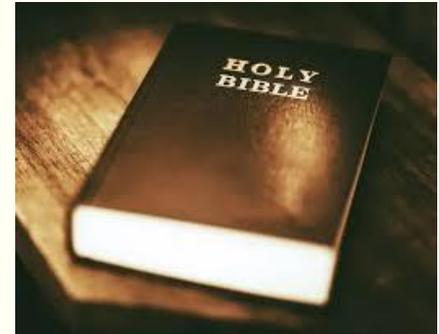
The breath of life from God brings the witnesses back to life. Like Ezekiel's vision of the valley of the dry bones, the dead bodies came to life (Ezekiel 37:1-10)

The shocking experience of the French Revolution galvanized the other nations into defense of Bible and the Christian faith

The French Assembly which voted to abolish religion in France on January 21, 1793 ended up voting to reinstate it on June 10, 1796. The resolution lay on the table for 6 months!

For 3-1/2 literal years, the Bible would appear dead. France would be the power to slay the two witnesses of Rev 11 in 1793 AD and deal a death blow to papal supremacy in 1798 AD

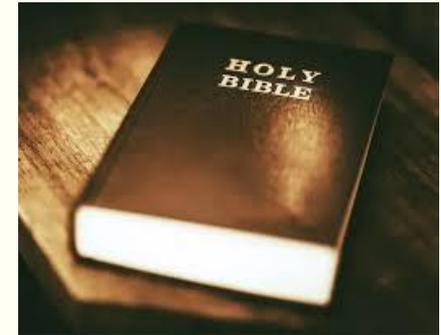
As France was falling apart, thousand of citizen fled to seek asylum in other countries. Teachers, businessmen, artisans left France in masses



The Two Witnesses Resurrected

Since the French Revolution, the word of God has been honored as never here. Missionary and Bible societies had their birth at this time.

“The scene here is of the “two witnesses” as they are given new “life” and exalted in the sight of their enemies. After the French Revolution, protestant Europe looked back on its extremes with disgust, and sought with fervent effort to elevate the Bible to greater prominence than ever. The British Bible society, established in 1804, and the American Bible Society, established in 1816, began distributing large numbers of Bibles. In 1804 the total number of Bibles in circulation was about four million in over fifty languages. Today there are billions of Bibles in hundreds of languages making it the world’s most widely circulated book.” - **Amazing Discoveries, Commentary on Revelation 11**



“Up until this time, foreign missions were unheard of. But in quick succession, Livingston went to Africa, Carey traveled to India, and Judson journeyed to Burma, quickly spreading the gospel around the world.” – **Revelation Pure and Simple, page 147, 148**

The Bible has been translated into every language over the globe. As of September 2020, the Bible has been translated into 704 languages, and the NT into additional 1551 languages

A symbolic earthquake destroys one-tenth (France) of the ten-horns of the Papal power (the great city Babylon) killing 7,000 people bringing fear among the nations and glory to God

France received retribution for disregarding God’s word. **The Bible is an anvil that has worn out many hammers.** “No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn.” Isaiah 54:17.

According to Guinness Book of World Records, as of 2015, over **5 billion** copies of the Bible has been printed, making it the best-selling book of all times

“The French Revolution was a period of terror when antireligious and atheistic sentiments swept the country, resulting in the rejection of Christianity and the Bible, and the rising tide of atheism and secularism with all hostility toward the Word of God throughout the world. If the two witnesses symbolize the Bible, this historical interpretation seems appropriate. **Since the time of the French Revolution, the church has witnessed the most widespread and triumphant spread of the gospel throughout the world.** Although such a historical application is quite tenable, it is not without significance that the understanding of the two witnesses is not restricted to the Bible. The books of Revelation and Daniel never restrict the attack of the evil powers against the Bible as a book, but rather extends it to God’s faithful people as they preach the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus. **It is against the saints that the evil powers wage war.** It is the people of God and the power of evil persecuting them that John had in mind in describing the scene of the two witnesses and their prophetic witnessing...One of the consequences of the French Revolution was a **great revival** of interest in the Bible manifested particularly in the establishment of the **great Bible societies** and numerous missionary societies during the time that followed...more than at any time in history.”

REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST,

COMMENTARY ON THE BOOK OF REVELATION, PAGE 354, 360

“When France publicly prohibited the Bible, wicked men and spirits of darkness exulted in their attainment of the object so long desired – a kingdom free from the restraints of the law of God. But the transgression of a just and righteous law must inevitably result in misery and ruin. Those who had chosen the service of rebellion were left to reap its fruits, **until the land was filled with crimes too horrible for pen to trace**. From devastated provinces and ruined cities, a terrible cry was heard, a cry of bitterest anguish. **France was shaken as if by an earthquake**. Religion, law, social order, the family, the State, and the Church – all were smitten down by the impious hand that had been lifted against the law of God.”

“Let all who would understand the meaning of these things read the eleventh chapter of Revelation. **Read every verse and learn the things that are yet to take place in the cities**. Read also the scenes portrayed in the eighteenth chapter of the same book.”

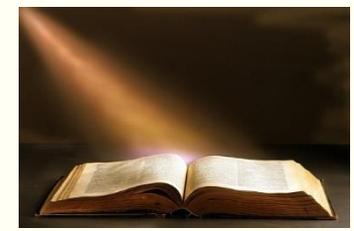
“The **centralizing of wealth and power**, the vast combinations for the enriching of the few at the expense of the many, the combinations of the poorer classes for the defense of their interests and claims, the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed, the **world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution** – all are tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.”

GREAT CONTROVERSY, PAGE 287

EDUCATION, PAGE 228

LAST DAY EVENTS, PAGE 95

Revelation 11:15-19



15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” **16** And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, **17** saying: “We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. **18** The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth.” **19** Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The Seventh Trumpet

The 6th trumpet concludes in 1840s and the second woe is past

The interlude of Rev 10 & 11 between the 6th and 7th trumpet shows what happened to God's faithful people and His Word from the beginning of time of the end (1798 AD) through 1840s

The third woe which is coming quickly is the 7th trumpet: the final judgment upon the earth

The scene shifts to heaven at the 7th trumpet like the 7th seal and 7th plague

At the 7th seal, there is ½ hour of silence in heaven

At the 7th plague, a voice out of the temple in heaven says, "it is finished"

At the 7th trumpet, there are loud voices in heaven, thanksgiving from the 24 elders, and the Most Holy Place opens to reveal the ark of the covenant

"Thus, the seven seals, seven trumpets, and seven vials, are not consecutive, but **parallel**, ending in the same consummation. They, from **distinct stand-points**, unfold God's plans for bringing about the grand end, under three aspects, **mutually complementing** each other."

Comment from Jamieson, Fausset and Brown on Revelation 11:19

The mighty angel of Revelation 10 raises his right hand and swears that there is time no longer. God is about to deliver and vindicate His faithful saints and bring earth's history to a close



The Seventh Trumpet

Upon the sounding of 7th trumpet, the Most Holy Place of temple of God is opened in heaven.
This indicates the beginning of the pre-advent judgment of 1844

In Rev 15:5-8, the Most Holy Place of the temple of God in heaven is shown again as open. But this time, seven angels come out of the temple with seven bowls of wrath to commence the 7th plagues. As they exit, probation closes, and no one is able to enter the temple until the plagues are completed.

Revelation 11 begins and ends with the judgment in heaven after the great disappointment

Rev 11:2-6 recaps the persecution of the two witnesses (538-1798 AD)

Rev 11:7-13 concludes the 42 months with the French Revolution

Rev 11:15-18 shows the close of pre-advent judgment and Christ second coming

“But in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.” – Rev 10:7

The end of this world is ushered by the sound of the trumpet of the seventh angel

Like the preceding six trumpets which cover a period of time, the 7th trumpet commences in 1844 and ends when He will return to earth with His faithful followers to recreate the earth



“As foretold in the Scriptures, the ministration of Christ in the most holy place began at the termination of the prophetic days in 1844. To this time, apply the words of the Revelator, “The temple of God was opened in Heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament.” [REV. 11:19] The ark of God's testament is in the second apartment of the sanctuary. As Christ entered there, to minister in the sinner's behalf, the inner temple was opened, and the ark of God was brought to view. To those who by faith beheld the Savior in his work of intercession, God's majesty and power were revealed. As the train of his glory filled the temple, light from the holy of holies was shed upon his waiting people on the earth.”

“In the ministration of the earthly tabernacle, which served “unto the example and shadow of heavenly things,” the holy of holies was opened only upon the great day of atonement, the typical day of judgment, set apart for the cleansing of the sanctuary. Therefore, the announcement, “The temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament,” points to the opening of the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary, at the end of the twenty-three hundred days—in 1844—as Christ entered there to perform the closing work of the atonement. Those who by faith followed their great High Priest, as he entered upon his ministry in the most holy place, beheld the ark of the testament.”

THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, PAGE 379

REVIEW & HERALD, NOVEMBER 9, 1905

The Seventh Trumpet

Revelation 11: 15-18 gives a picture of the final events in earth's history

John hears loud voices in heaven declaring the triumph of Jesus and the transfer of dominion and rulership of the world to Jesus from the usurping power of rebel and prince of evil, Satan

The Lord's prayer is fulfilled. **"Thy kingdom come."**

The long-continued rule of events shall be broken, and the Prince of peace's rule begins

"And in the days of these kings the **God of heaven will set up a kingdom** which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and **it shall stand forever.**" – Dan 2:44

The anger of the nations, the wrath of God, and the time to judge the dead, the reward of God's servants are separate and distinct events

The wicked dead are judged after Jesus comes to claim His kingdom and reward His saints (at the close of the 1000 years in heaven)

The ark was a symbol of God's protecting presence in the Old Testament. God's law remains unchangeable and is solid proof that the Ten Commandments remain immutable

As the world's history closes and God's faithful people face trials and persecution, the ark of the covenant reminds them that God is with them, and of His love and covenant promise



The Seventh Trumpet

The proclamation of the gospel will be completed at the sound of the seventh angel

The 24 elders, representatives of the redeemed humanity fall before the throne in worship

“Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was”

The original text omits “who is to come” [Greek - Erchomai] like in Rev 1:8 and Rev 4:8

Jesus coming is no longer in the future for He has received the kingdom and begun to reign

“Why do the **nations rage**, and the people plot a vain thing? The **kings of the earth** set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, **against the Lord and against His Anointed**, saying, “Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us.” He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision. Then He shall **speak to them in His wrath**, and distress them in His deep displeasure: “Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.” “I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and **I will give You the nations** for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.” (Psalms 2:1-9)

The anger of the nations is again fueled by the 7 plagues against God and His people

It climaxes in the battle of Armageddon when the nations unite in opposition to God’s kingdom



The Seventh Trumpet

Rev 12 and 13 describes the wrath of the dragon against God from the beginning of the rebellion in heaven, and redirected at His people from creation to the last battle

God responds to the wrath of dragon (Rev 12:12, 17), the wrath of the nations (Rev 16:14, 16), and the wrath of the beast (Rev 18:3) with the wrath of God (Rev 14:10,19; 2 Pet 3:7)

God's wrath begins with the outpouring of the seven last plagues from the bowls of wrath

“He will bless those who fear the Lord, both small and great.” – Psalms 115:13

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’” – Matt 25:34

“The earth also was corrupt before God, and the **earth was filled with violence**. So, God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was **corrupt**; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, “The **end of all flesh** has come before Me, for the **earth is filled with violence** through them; and behold, I will **destroy them with the earth**” - Genesis 6:11-13

While judgment bring reward and blessing to the faithful, “those who dwell on the earth” (the unsaved) who have filled the earth with their iniquity receive their punishment

Those who are destroying the earth (Greek – Diaohtheiro) does not refer to the contemporary view resulting in the impact of climate change, but the continued choice to live in sin



REPEAT and ENLARGE

Recap of the Seven churches, Seven seals and Seven trumpets

Ephesus (desirable)	Apostolic church	Pure and zealous	1 st seal – White horse	Warnings of lovelessness and apostasy	31-100 AD	Faithful are united	1 st trumpet – 1 st century: Destruction of Jerusalem
Smyrna (sweet-smelling)	Persecuted church	Faithful amidst state persecution	2 nd seal – Red horse	Severe persecution	100-313 AD	Faithful resists apostasy	2 nd trumpet – 3 rd -5 th century: Invasions of barbarians (Pagan Rome)
Pergamos (exalted)	Compromising church	Church unite with state	3 rd seal – Black horse	Apostate church emerges (Balaam)	313-538 AD	Faithful separates from apostasy	3 rd trumpet – 5 th -14 th century: Apostasy of Papal Rome
Thyatira (sacrifice)	Dead church	Church dominating the state	4 th seal – Pale horse	Apostasy and corruption deepens (Jezebel)	538-1500 AD	Faithful flees from corrupt church to the wilderness	4 th trumpet – 16 th -18 th century: Deepening darkness with the age of enlightenment, humanism rationalism & secularism
Sardis (renewal)	Lifeless church	Protestant Reformation	5 th seal – Cry of the martyrs	Apostate church exposed	1500-1750 AD	Faithful embraces restored lost truth	5 th trumpet – 612-1449 AD: Islam (Arabs)
Philadelphia (brotherly love)	Faithful church	Warnings of second advent and the time of the end	6 th seal – Signs in the sky	Apostate church falls	1750-1844 AD	Faithful proclaims the true gospel	6 th trumpet – 1449-1840s AD: Ottoman Empire
Laodicea (judgment)	Lukewarm church	The end of time and second advent	7 th seal – Silence in heaven	Wound is healed and apostate church is judged	1844 – 2 nd coming	Jesus come to take His faithful people	7 th trumpet – 1844 - 2 nd coming

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